

REMARKS

Claims 22 and 24 are pending. Support for the amendment to claims 22 and 24 is found, for example, at page 14, lines 1-3 of the specification.

Review and reconsideration on the merits are requested.

Claims 22 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious over Kumar et al. in view of Simpson, III.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention is not obvious over the disclosure of Kumar et al. in view of Simpson, III and request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw this rejection in view of the amendment to the claims and the following remarks.

As described at page 13, line 25 to page 14, line 3 and in Table 3 of the specification, both improved chip deforming effect and improved life are unexpectedly improved by setting the relationship of W_a and W as defined in amended claims 22 and 24. More particularly, as shown in Table 3, when the width W_a of the concave edge portion is smaller than $W/2$ as in Sample Nos. 1 and 2, deformation of the chip is small. When W_a is larger than $2W/3$ as shown in Sample No. 5, good deformation of the chip is attained, but the life of the insert was short. From this, the present inventors determined that the width W of the end cutting edge 15 and the width W_a are preferably set so as to satisfy the relationship $W/2 \leq W_a \leq 2W/3$.

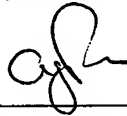
The above-noted relationship, now recited in claims 22 and 24, is critical for achieving the effects of the invention. There is nothing in the cited prior art which teaches or suggests this feature of the invention, and withdrawal of the foregoing rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is

respectfully requested. The spheroid depression, as defined in claims 22 and 24, is quite useful for attaining the relationship described above.

In the event that the Examiner believes that it may be helpful to advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number indicated below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 24, 2004